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10525 U.S. PRO
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of

JAMES W. CREE, ET AL.

Serial No.

: Group Art Unit 3735

Filed May 4, 1999

: Examiner M. Polluta

For ABSORBENT ARTICLE

HAVING FUSED LAYERS

Case 4546RC2D

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

AI
OK
18/01
Page 1, in the first line of the first sentence, between "a" and "continuation", insert --|
division of Serial No. 09/127,212, filed July 31, 1998, which is a --|

Issued on Aug. 15, 2000 as Patent number 6,103,953 and is a --|

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2-5, add the following claims, and cancel Claim 1.

1. A sanitary napkin comprising:

a liquid permeable top layer;

a liquid impermeable back layer;

a liquid absorbent core disposed between said top layer and said back layer;

said top layer having a central zone and side zones at both sides of said central zone,
said top layer including an upper layer of a thermoplastic synthetic resinous material

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